

Clearwisdom Digest

Issue 28 • January 2005

Clearwisdom.net

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News and Events from Around the World

Xinhua News Ignores Big Stories and Repeats Old Lies

Xinhua News Agency, the official mouthpiece of the Chinese communist authorities, misassigned the importance to two unrelated stories in its TV program, drawing a lot of attention from viewers outside of China.

The first story is on the death of China's former Premier, Zhao Ziyang on January 17. For this important news, Xinhua News Agency only published a single sentence of 67 words on the last page of the next day's *People's Daily*. From Zhao's death up to now, among China's state media, from central to local, only a few have repeated the standard announcement. China's influential state-run China Central Television did not even pick up the news.

Meanwhile, Xinhua News Agency started a new round of propaganda about the four-year-old so-called, "Tiananmen Self-immolation," of January 23, 2001.

Xinhua purposely passed over the important real news, to concentrate their efforts on an incident that happened four years ago that has been demonstrated to have been staged by the Jiang regime. Many people are familiar with Xinhua News Agency's unique programming decisions, and understand that only the date of the news is true in Xinhua News Agency's paper--all the rest is fake.

Former President Zhao Ziyang devoted himself to China's reform and modernization and made important contributions to reform in rural areas. Because of his opposition to military action during the Tiananmen Massacre in 1989, he was put under house arrest for the rest of his life.

After Zhao's death, while the Chinese government and its media kept the news on a low profile or chose to ignore it entirely, Chinese people all around the world, including Mainland China, held memorial ceremonies for Zhao. Foreign media and western governments spoke highly of Zhao. Many overseas Chinese organizations held activities to mourn Zhao Ziyang and denounce the CCP.

Regarding Xinhua News Agency's new round of propaganda, Falun Gong's Chinese website Minghui Net published an editorial entitled, "Witnessing the Hypocrisy of Xinhua News Agency: Major News Ignored - Old Lies Reemerge." The article said, "Xinhua News Agency tried its best to cover up important news like Zhao's death and several recent self-immolation cases by angry people against the government in Beijing, while focusing on defaming Falun Gong by airing fake news directed by the CCP government over four years ago. It is obvious that Xinhua News Agency is not a news

media, but a dictator's political tool. Deceiving and misleading the public is its only purpose."

Overseas NTDTV produced a video entitled *False Fire*, based on analysis by the independent organization, International Educational Development, of CCTV's "Tiananmen Self-immolation" tape. The video won an award at the 51st Columbus International Film and Video Festival.

Many overseas Chinese are commenting on the Xinhua News Agency's behavior. At the time of Zhao's death, the CCP's media picked up an old, fabricated story on the self-immolation to again defame Falun Gong, using the Falun Gong issue to divert people's attention from Zhao Ziyang's death in captivity.

Canada: Toronto Practitioners Rally to Call on Prime Minister to Help Stop Persecution

Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin will start an 8-day trip to Asia on January 15. He will visit China and Hong Kong from Jan 20 to 22. On January 11, despite the cold, Toronto practitioners rallied in front of the Chinese Consulate to call on Martin to help stop the persecution and killing of practitioners and rescue those being persecuted when he visits China.

At the press conference held during the rally, Toronto Falun Gong spokesman Joel Chipkar said: "Since the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) came into power 50 years ago, the total number of Chinese people who have been killed by CCP is 400 times higher than the total death of this recent South Asia Tsunami. In the past five years, CCP has been brutally persecuting practitioners who believe in "Truthfulness, Compassion and Forbearance" principles, and at least 1238 practitioners have been murdered. The tremendous loss due to the overwhelming nature is heart-rending; the sustained murder of innocent people by politics and power is more disgusting."

Toronto practitioner Bill Liang and Lizhi He who was detained in China for three years and rescued to Canada last year spoke out on behalf of 14 practitioners who have relatives in China suffering persecution. They called on Prime Minister Martin to help rescue their relatives. Mother of Bill Liang, 69, has been sentenced to three years in prison for not giving up her belief in Falun Gong. Bill said: "I call on Prime Minister Martin to rescue my mother during his trip to China... Sanshui Forced Labor Camp in Guangdong told me that they forced my 69-year-old mother to get up 6am every day to work, however, they refused to tell me what kind of work my mother is being forced to do and how long she has to work every day."

During the rally, practitioners met an MP who went to the Consulate to get his visa. This MP is to visit China with the Prime Minister. Practitioners asked the MP to urge Martin to bring up the Falun Gong issue during their trip to China. The MP expressed his support to practitioners.

Chipkar said: "Supporters of Falun Gong hope Martin can clearly bring up the Falun Gong issue during his meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao. For the sake of China, Chinese people and Canada, it is time to stop the persecution of Falun Gong. In the future, if we look back on the history of today and realize that such an atrocity of contrived persecution could have been stopped while people chose not to do anything, it will be the greatest regret of our human being."

A reporter from Toronto Star, Toronto's largest newspaper, published a photo report about this rally on January 12. The title of this photo report is "Falun Gong members seek PM's support on his visit to China." Another Toronto newspaper published an open letter from Mr. Chipkar on the persecution and Prime Minister's China trip.

New York Falun Gong Practitioners Participate in "Three Kings Day Parade" in Manhattan

On January 6, 2005, Falun Gong practitioners' waist drum team participated in the Manhattan Uptown "Three Kings Day Parade" in the Spanish Community. The parade was to commemorate the three wise kings who foresaw the birth of Jesus and went to worship him.

The day before the parade, the weather turned cold and rained all day, but on the day of the parade, it was only drizzling, and the practitioners joined in as scheduled.

The red banner with golden characters "Falun Dafa is Good" led the Falun Gong procession. Waist Drum players in gold exercise suits performed, accompanied by the song "Falun Dafa is Good". Behind the waist drum team came the Falun Gong exercises demonstration. The last part was a banner reading, "Falun Dafa, Truthfulness Compassion Forbearance".

Among the parading groups, Falun Gong was bright and orderly. The spectators liked the Falun Gong procession very much and they waved their hands and smiled, especially the children. Many people accepted handouts explaining the truth behind the persecution in China. A Spanish Newspaper reporter invited the practitioners to join their next parade.

The practitioners were also very pleased. "The children smiled so brightly when they saw us. I was holding the banner in the lead. When I turned my head back, I saw other practitioners demonstrating the exercises. I felt very proud," said Jenny, a western practitioner.

Practitioners are approaching the Manhattan community in various ways to let people know the beauty of Falun Dafa.

2005 Taiwan Falun Dafa Cultivation Experience Sharing Conference Held in Taipei

On January 9, 2005, the Taiwan Falun Dafa Cultivation Experience Sharing Conference was held in the Taipei International Conference Center. More than 6,000 practitioners from across Taiwan, North America, Japan, Malaysia and around the world attended the conference. The atmosphere inside the conference hall was solemn and peaceful. Falun Dafa founder, Li Hongzhi's portrait was hung in the center. Several long meter-wide banners imprinted with our Teacher's poems were hung on both sides of the conference hall. An array of crystal clear lotus lamps on the platform represented millions of Dafa practitioners' steadfast hearts.

Two hosts' opening remarks led off the Taiwan Falun Dafa Cultivation Experience Sharing Conference. Twenty-two practitioners including an attorney, a school president, professor, computer engineer, Ph.D. candidate, instructor and practitioners with various backgrounds spoke about their personal experiences and insights, deeply touching the audience.

Mr. Lan Weigang, a lieutenant platoon leader who currently serves at Hualian, said that initially, because of the influence of the Jiang regime's deceptive propaganda, his division commander and classmates had misunderstandings about Falun Gong and were not so friendly to him. They even criticized and accused him. Later, he improved his moral character and used his own words and deeds to clear up his classmates' and instructors' misunderstandings about Falun Gong. One of his classmates told him, "I know many people from different religions, but none of them is like you. Therefore, I believe that Falun Gong is better than other schools of religion."

A 69-year-old lady Ms. Hsie Hsiu-ju told everyone how, after she started practicing Falun Gong, all of her illnesses disappeared and she became increasingly healthy. Previously, she had to use her umbrella as a crutch, but now she has no problem walking. Her neighbors affectionately call her "Young Miss Hsie." She said that she has a special phone line dedicated to calling Mainland China and telling people, "Falun Dafa is great!"

Ms. Chen Feng-mei is a 47-year-old tailor from Taidong. She had suffered infantile paralysis since her childhood. When she was only three years old, she got a high fever and had to depend on crutches to walk after that. She said that when she read the book *Zhuan Falun* for the first time, she felt that her questions about life were answered. Through her practice, her migraine was gradually reduced and she is even able to sit in the full lotus position. She also began to open her heart and calmly accept the reality of

her disability. She rides her motorized tricycle with enthusiasm to spread Falun Dafa in different places. Although people see her as a disabled person who has trouble moving around, she is indeed a happy and healthy person.

Chang Da-shan, a Ph.D. candidate from National Tsing Hua University at Hsin Chu, shared his experiences from his trip to Manhattan to help with the effort to clarify the truth about the persecution in China. At first, he felt uncomfortable seeing the cold expression in the Westerners' eyes, and was disappointed when many people did not accept the truth-clarifying materials that he handed out. Then he realized that he went there for the purpose of saving people from the poisonous lies, and should not have the attachment of pride. Great compassion emerged from the bottom of his heart, and people's attitudes toward him changed completely.

At 6:00 pm, more than 6,000 practitioners from all over the world concluded a successful 2005 Taiwan Falun Dafa Cultivation Experience Sharing Conference.

Stories about Clarifying the Truth in New York City

"Your Steadfast Standing Has Strength"

A group of practitioners was holding banners at a subway entrance near the World Trade Center one morning. A gentleman who works in the government health department came over to us and asked how frequently we publish new editions of "Falun Gong Today." He said he saw Falun Gong practitioners clarifying the truth to people every day. He was deeply moved by that. He also said that our standing there so resolutely has a powerful strength. We could see his sincere respect for us. He listened to our truth-clarification very seriously.

"I Will Tell My Students"

A teacher and one of his students came by to watch us doing the exercises. Practitioners went over to talk to them. They said that they had never heard anything about the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners. They were quite shocked after learning the truth. Practitioners told them that in China, if a teacher were to practice Falun Gong, he would be deprived of his teaching position, and if a student practiced Falun Gong he would be deprived of his right to go to school. The teacher told us that he would share those facts with his students.

"Thank You for Opening My Eyes"

One day it was raining. A young lady was reading our truth-clarifying posters. A practitioner came up to thank her for reading the truth-clarifying material in the rain. She said: "I should thank you instead, for opening up my eyes. When I read about all of this going on in China it really makes me think. I would like to visit your website too."

"I've Already Sent an E-Mail To President Bush"

I was handing out truth-clarifying flyers in the subway. A man said that he had already sent an e-mail to President Bush. When I thanked him, he said he felt that he had to do something, and sending an e-mail was a way to help that was within his ability. One woman was shaking her head, with tears running down her face, after reading the flyer I gave her. When she was discussing the flyer with her friend, I went up to her and talked about the persecution that our female practitioners were enduring, including rape and forced abortion. She said that it was just too terrible.

Although it has been raining every day recently, people still stop by to visit our truth-clarifying exhibit and listen to practitioners talking about the persecution for

prolonged periods of time. Some visitors even stand in the rain without raincoats, not wanting to leave until they have learned the truth.

Voices of Justice

***"Reporters Without Borders" Condemns the Chinese Regime's Arrest of
Falun Gong Practitioners***

"Reporters Without Borders," an international non-governmental organization based in Paris, declared on December 29, 2004 that they publicly condemn the Chinese Regime for arresting eleven Falun Gong practitioners. Chinese authorities arrested Falun Gong practitioners because they posted photos depicting how they were tortured in prison on the Internet. Over twenty practitioners have already been put into prison for this reason.

"Reporters Without Borders" believes that Falun Gong practitioners have the right to use the Internet to condemn the violence against them in a country where there is no free press. "Reporters Without Borders" said that the Chinese authorities' actions have severely violated human rights and freedom of expression.

One well-known victim is Liao Yuanhua, who was imprisoned for four years because he practiced Falun Gong. After his release, he was again arrested on December 2, 2004 because he published pictures showing how he was cruelly tortured while in custody. In September 2004, a Falun Gong practitioners' website carried photo reenactments of Liao being cruelly tortured in Fanjiatai Prison in Shayang City, Hubei Province.

"Reporters Without Borders" states that at least thirty people have been arrested because they posted on the Internet pictures of the abuse they suffered, expressed their support for Falun Gong, or criticized the cruel torture against Falun Gong practitioners.

Finnish Government Continues to Examine the Persecution Against Falun Gong

Falun Dafa practitioners in Finland sent the petition signatures that they have collected calling for an end to the persecution to the Finnish Foreign Ministry. Below is the response from the Human Rights Unit of the Foreign Ministry.

Issue: Falun Gong

I would like to thank you for your letter regarding Falun Gong. We have also received petitions related to Falun Gong from other parts of Finland.

We have familiarized ourselves with the petitions you have collected regarding the persecution against Falun Gong practitioners, as well as the special report about the human rights violations that are targeting children.

The Finnish Government continues to closely follow the human rights situation in China. In addition to other issues, Falun Gong's situation is being monitored constantly both in the private relations between Finland and China and with regards to the human rights dialogue between the European Union and China.

I regard the information received from NGOs about the human rights situation in China, as well as in other countries, as very important, and I hope that our good cooperation continues in the future.

Kind regards,

Head of the Human Rights Unit of the Foreign Ministry of Finland

Press Conference Speech from European Friends of Falun Gong

The following speech was made by the Vice-Chairman of European Friends of Falun Gong - a non-profit organization of people who support Falun Gong practitioners freedom of belief - during a press conference in London on Saturday January 15th. A written version of the speech was then taken to the Chinese Embassy, where the staff refused to open the door and accept the letter.

15th January 2005

Dear Ambassador:

We are here today to make an impassioned appeal to the leader of the PRC, Hu Jintao, to end the severe persecution of the Falun Gong practitioners in China which has been taking place for more than 5 years now.

During that time more than 1600 practitioners have been tortured to death while in police custody, and the brutal regime of former president Jiang Zemin, has been responsible for the imprisonment of many thousands more practitioners, for doing no more than exercising their constitutional right to freedom of speech and belief. So far the persecution has shown little sign of improving since the new government leader took over nearly two years ago. The continual persecution casts a shameful shadow over mankind which we must do our utmost to expurgate.

China must be made to realise that Falun Gong and its supporters can only have a beneficial effect on the moral and social fabric of the country as a whole, with their principles of Truthfulness, Compassion and Forbearance, and that they are not seeking any political gain out of their practice.

It is therefore vital that foreign governments, including that of the UK, continue to put pressure on the Chinese government to change its attitude towards Falun Gong.

We are aware that those governments must have fears that, to speak out against China could have a detrimental effect on the trade and economic links with China in the future, but those fears must be overcome by a sense of higher moral standing.

We appeal to Prime Minister Tony Blair and Foreign Secretary Jack Straw to lead the way in increasing the pressure on China to end the persecution. The long-term gains in terms of higher morality and a sense of justice must be allowed to prevail over short-term economic gain.

Facts of the Persecution

Sixty-nine Additional Persecution-Related Deaths Confirmed in December

2004

Information published on Clearwisdom.net has confirmed that another 69 Falun Gong practitioners have died as a result of the persecution in China. As of January 5, 2005, the confirmed death toll of practitioners has reached 1,238 during the more than five years since July 20, 1999, when Jiang Zemin's political faction began its blatant persecution of Falun Gong.

These 69 persecution-related deaths come from 18 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities: 17 cases in Liaoning Province; 12 cases in Hebei Province; eight in Jilin Province; six in Hubei Province; three in Heilongjiang Province; three in Shandong Province; three cases in Gansu Province; two in Xinjiang Autonomous Region; two in Guangdong Province, two in Fujian Province; two in Shaanxi Province; and two in Tianjin. One death was reported in each of the following locations: Hunan Province, Beijing, Henan Province, Yunan Province and Shanghai.

Among them, the youngest person to die was 26, while the oldest was 75. Thirty-two people over 50 years old account for 46% of the total; four people were in their 70's; they are, Mr. Zeng Chuanyong, a 70-year-old farmer from Gaosha Town of Dongkou County, Hunan Province; Mr. Tian Zhongxin, a 71-year-old schoolteacher from Gangxi Central Elementary School in Gangnan Village, Gangtun Town, Lianshan District, Huludao City, Liaoning Province; Ms. Sui Ruolan, 73, who lived in Room 1-2-3, Building 71, Changping Street, the Shahekou District, Dalian City, Liaoning Province and Mr. Feng Min, a 75-year-old bureau-level officer in Tianjin City.

Of these 69 deadly persecution cases, 37 women accounted for 54% of the total. Thirty-eight deaths took place in 2004, with four of those occurring in December 2004.

The victims included workers, farmers, schoolteachers, officials and TV reporters. They all practiced Falun Gong and had benefited from it. Since Jiang's political faction within the Chinese

Communist Party (CCP) violated the Chinese Constitution and suppressed Falun Gong, all of these practitioners were illegally arrested and detained because they spoke the truth about Falun Gong, citing their own experiences and affirming that they would not give up the practice. While in detention, they were subjected to brainwashing and unbelievably cruel torture that resulted in their deaths.

***Inhumane Treatment at the Baimalong Women's Labor Camp in Zhuzhou
City, Hunan Province, China***

By Chang De and Song Zhixin from Hunan Province, China

My name is Song Zhixin. I am 56 year old. On July 12, 2002, the police, and over a dozen people from the 610 Office, abducted me and took me to a brainwashing session in the Wuyuan Hotel in Changde City. They put all the steadfast Falun Dafa practitioners in a small room that was only over 100 square feet, and cut off all of our contact with the outside. They tortured us in a completely isolated environment for sixty-six days. We were not allowed to see our family members. Finally, when Guo Hongmin and Dai Yi from the 610 Office realized that I could not be forced to renounce my belief, they sentenced me to one year in a labor camp and I was detained in the Baimalong Labor Camp in Zhuzhou City.

In the labor camp, the police brutally tortured every steadfast practitioner. I was detained in the Qiyi Brigade. There were more than a dozen detainees in every room, but only one practitioner per room was allowed. The labor camp used collaborators and drug addicts to attack the steadfast practitioners. They did not allow me to contact anyone from outside, and they forced their brainwashing materials upon me. They played one videotape after another full of lies, slander and defamation of Falun Dafa and practitioners.

I kept my faith the entire time and refused to accept anything from them. They exhausted all their means and harassed me twenty-four hours a day. I did not follow any of their orders. A month later, the police transferred me and ten other practitioners to a special brigade for further torture.

There, they assigned the inmates to watch us day and night. At bedtime, or before getting up in the morning, they forbade us to sit on the bed for fear that we might meditate or send forth righteous thoughts. They also did not allow us to walk around; anyone who walked around would be followed by other inmates. The surveillance was very tight. The police ordered us to wear prison uniforms and badges. We refused, and were punished by being forced to stand up until midnight. If we refused to do the prison exercise drills, they would expose us for a prolonged time under the burning sun. At night, any practitioner who tried to sit up would be beaten, cursed, dragged down from the bed, forbidden to use a blanket, and tortured with other despicable means.

In order to stop the persecution, we started a hunger strike on May 24, 2003. A few days later, they started to torture us with brutal force-feeding. They videotaped the process

and said that it would be used to show the world their "humanity." This procedure was carried out in the instructor's office. Doctor Huang gave directions, and then police officer Huang Weimin and several others gave instructions to the inmates. They ordered one inmate to hold my neck tightly with a towel, one to pinch my nose, one to keep my mouth in place, one to pull my hair backward, one to hold down my left hand, one to hold down my right hand, one in front of me to pry my mouth open with a big metal spoon, and another to force-feed me. During the force-feeding, they covered my mouth and nose with a bowl and I passed out instantly and fell from the chair. The instructor immediately came over and kicked me, and they continued to force-feed me after I regained consciousness. They purposely poured the food all over my body. The entire process was videotaped. This was how they tried to "save" people! Actually, they were trying to kill people.

This violent torture continued for forty-two days. On the last day, I suddenly felt an unbearable pain in my chest. Policeman Huang Weimin transferred me to the designated hospital of the Baimalong Labor Camp. The doctors cooperated with the police and tried to insert a stomach tube into me. After the insertion of the tube, I vomited even more. Soon, they sent me back to the Baimalong Labor Camp. Seven other practitioners and I started a hunger strike again. The brigade leader, Huang Weimin, and his cohorts instructed seven or eight inmates to force-feed us twice a day. They shut us in the office and took turns force-feeding us. Some practitioners' mouths were injured and their teeth were loosened or they lost several teeth as a result of their mouths being pried open. In the end, I was the only one left. At that time, only Teacher' Fa was strengthening my righteous thoughts.

This time the torture was more brutal than before. The instructor's office became a permanent place for force-feeding me. In the middle of the floor was a straw mat. I was pushed down on the mat and a tall inmate sat on my legs. Each of my hands was pressed down by an inmate. My head was also held down tightly. As in the previous force-feedings, my body was pressed so hard that it was immediately covered with marks and bruises. My throat became red and swollen from the insertion of the stomach tube. My mouth was rubbed raw and my teeth became loose. This went on for eighty days. Finally, they sent me to the Zhuzhou Worker's Hospital for a second round of force-feeding. Furthermore, they charged me nearly 1,000 yuan a day for this punishment. On the eighth day, my nose and throat bled profusely after they inserted the tube. I decided then that I would no longer allow them to do that to me even if I had to die. I demanded that they clear my name, and restore the reputation of Falun Gong and our Teacher, and release me immediately and unconditionally.

After the stomach tube was left in my throat for eight days, my nose and throat suffered unbearable pain. My hands were shackled to the bed by ice-cold handcuffs and I could

not turn over. After a total of over one hundred and twenty days of torture, they saw that my life was at risk and ordered my family members to take me home. However, Guo Hongmin and Dai Yi from the City 610 Office ordered the officers to send me for further brainwashing sessions. Only after my family members strongly protested, did they let me go home.

China: Mr. Yue Baoxue Dies as a Result of Torture in January 2005

Mr. Yue Baoxue, 38-years old, was a practitioner from Shuangcheng City, Heilongjiang province. He was determined in his cultivation of Falun Gong and went out to uphold the reputation of Falun Dafa many times. He suffered brutal torture at Shuangcheng Detention Center, because he went to Beijing to appeal on behalf of Falun Gong. He was then sent to Changlinzi Forced Labor Camp where he was detained for over two years. His health worsened due to this long-term torture. His muscles atrophied and shrank. A large scar could be seen on his lower abdomen. On January 5, 2005, he passed away.

Yue Baoxue began to practice Falun Dafa in 1995. His illnesses were cured and his family life became one of joy and harmony. On July 22, 1999, the former CCP leader Jiang Zemin launched the nationwide persecution of Falun Gong. He was jealous because of Falun Gong's popularity.

Ning Yunsheng and a team of police from the Hongqi Street Police Station came to Yue Baoxue's home to search for Falun Gong related materials. Mr. Yue asked them not to take away the materials. The police got angry and arrested and detained him in the Shuangcheng City Detention Center. A month later, the detention center released him. They extorted 200 yuan, as a so-called "dining fee." At the end of 1999, the police arrested Mr. Yue again without any legal warrant. His wife went to the local 610 Office to ask Zhang Guofu and Zhang Shiyue about her husband's whereabouts. The staff told her, "We were told that Yue Baoxue might go to Beijing to appeal, so we detained him."

Yue Baoxue was held for six months before he was transferred to a brainwashing class held by the town's government. Liu Yuhua, the town mayor said, "You have to pay a 300 yuan fine." Yue's wife told them that she did not have the money. She had to bring Mr. Yue food every day. To protest the mistreatment, Mr. Yue held a seven or eight day hunger strike. They finally released him. The Hongqi Street Police Station authorities continued to harass him and his family. Sometimes, around midnight, they would shine a flashlight from outside the window into his rooms, or knock on the door.

Several months later, Mr. Yue went to Beijing to appeal on behalf of Falun Gong. He was arrested and detained in Shuangcheng Detention Center, where he was tortured. An insider told us that the 610 Office hired people to beat him into unconsciousness. They used different torture instruments. Mr. Yue was sent to Changlinzi Forced Labor Camp for further persecution.

Yue Baoxue was sent to Changlinzi Forced Labor Camp for two years, which was extended by one month. He suffered inhuman torture in the labor camp. He held a 28-day hunger strike and suffered force-feeding, as well as the following torture

methods: "Long-Time Hanging," "Being confined in a solitary compartment" and "Riding an airplane." His health worsened due to this long-term torture. His muscles atrophied and shrank. A long scar could be seen on his lower abdomen. In 2002, the police hung Yue Baoxue on the bed frame, and beat him for more than ten days. The handcuffs tightly cut into his wrists. He lost all feelings in his arms and could no longer hold anything with his hands.

Since September 2002, the 4^h Brigade police at Changlinzi Forced Labor Camp have brutally tortured Falun Gong practitioners. They tried to force practitioners to sign a "Transformation Statement." Yue Baoxue was hung up by his hands for six days and nights. Practitioner Xu Zhenfeng was hung up for three days and nights. Both his hands turned red and became swollen, and his body was covered with wounds.

Yue Baoxue was covered with scabies. His health did not recover after his release. The long-term persecution and extreme mental pressure took its toll. On January 5, 2005 at 7:00 a.m., Yue Baoxue passed away.

China: Renowned Lawyer Meets Rejection When Seeking Justice for a Falun Gong Practitioner

Mr. Gao Zhisheng is one of ten lawyers honored by China's Ministry of Justice in 2001. He has taken on many cases that caused a sensation throughout the country, one third of which were *pro bono* lawsuits, representing people who could not afford to hire a lawyer. One of his former clients was human rights advocate Ye Guozhu (1). Recently, Mr. Gao Zhisheng took the case of Falun Gong practitioner Mr. Huang Wei in Shijiazhuang City. Mr. Gao Zhisheng's experience in handling this lawsuit demonstrates the Chinese Communist officials' complete disregard for the law on the issue of Falun Gong.

Huang Wei's Case

Huang Wei, 36 years old, used to work as a sales representative for Hebei Biomedical Engineering Company. He was well liked among family members, neighbors and colleagues. His wife Hao Qiuyan, 33 years old, graduated from the Department of Fashion Design of Hebei Institute of Light Industry and Chemical Technology. According to Hao Qiuyan, Huang Wei started practicing Falun Gong in the spring of 1995. He benefited tremendously from the practice and was able to quit drinking, smoking and gambling, and his temperament improved greatly. However, in late 1999 after the persecution of Falun Gong began, he was convicted of "attempted appeals," among other charges, and was sentenced to three years of forced labor.

In late 2002, Huang Wei was finally released and returned home. At the end of 2003, with the help of friends, he started a business with other Falun Gong practitioners who had also lost their jobs due to the persecution. The business involved the sales of medicine and clothing. He also rented a workshop at No. 301, Entrance 3, Building 19 at a tractor factory dormitory, and used it for storage.

On April 13, 2004, right after Huang Wei took his five-year-old child to kindergarten, four officers, including local policeman Yang Yuliang from Hedong Police Station and Li Guoqiang from the Chang'an District Police Department, abducted him without showing a warrant. They illegally detained Mr. Huang and ransacked his workshop and took nearly 40,000 yuan worth of merchandise.

Huang Wei received the release statement on the 38th day of his detention. However, Wang Ping, Zhai Qingmin and others from Hedong Police Station wanted to take him back to the police station to continue the detention. Huang Wei asked them to show a warrant and Wang Ping said, "What nonsense! We follow no law in dealing with Falun Gong practitioners!" Zhai Qingmin said, "We are supposed to follow legal procedures,

but we wouldn't be able to do anything against Falun Gong if we truly followed the law!" They called in a few members from the United Security Team, who handcuffed Huang Wei, pushed him into a car and sent him to the detention room at Hedong Police Station, where they held him for 15 days. On June 4, they sent Mr. Huang to the Shijiazhuang City Forced Labor Camp. During a physical examination Huang Wei's electrocardiogram and blood pressure were found to be abnormal. According to regulations, he should not have been held at a labor camp, but the labor camp authorities accepted him anyway.

That same day, after being illegally sentenced to three years of forced labor, Huang Wei was taken to the Division 2 of the Shijiazhuang City Forced Labor Camp. Later he was transferred to Division 3. The guards held him in solitary confinement and strictly blocked any information about his detention.

While being held at the labor camp, Huang Wei mailed a petition letter to the relevant departments in the city government. On August 28, Huang Wei held a hunger strike after failing to receive any response from the government, and he re-sent the letter. On October 18, the 52nd day of the hunger strike, the city government's Legal Office sent people to meet with Huang Wei. After that, Huang Wei appealed to the Hebei Provincial Committee of Reeducation through Labor and asked for a reconsideration of his sentence. But he has met with many difficulties.

Lawyer Gao Zhisheng met with Huang Wei in the labor camp

After learning of Huang Wei's case, lawyer Gao Zhisheng decided to contribute to the anti-persecution efforts.

On the morning of December 27, 2004, Mr. Gao Zhisheng and another lawyer went to the Shijiazhuang City Forced Labor Camp and asked to see Huang Wei. The labor camp authorities told them that meetings with other detainees could be arranged, but meetings with Falun Gong practitioners had to be approved by the 610 Office before they could go through the regular procedure at the Administration Division of the labor camp.

Mr. Gao Zhisheng and his colleagues persevered with their efforts and went back and forth between the Administration Division's 610 Office of the labor camp and the 610 Office of the Judicial Bureau.

The personnel at the 610 Office were very arrogant and said to them, "As lawyers, you should know better! How is it possible for you to see detained Falun Gong practitioners?" Mr. Gao Zhisheng said, "This 610 Office of yours is notorious abroad because you operate above the law, like the Gestapo." The 610 Office personnel

answered, "We know we have a bad reputation, so we have changed our name to the 'Stability Office'."

Mr. Gao Zhisheng was persistent, and after more than three hours of negotiating back and forth and waiting for approvals by officials on various levels, the Administration Division of the labor camp eventually granted Mr. Gao Zhisheng a three-minute meeting with Huang Wei.

Gao Zhisheng's impression of Huang Wei and Huang Wei's account of the case

Mr. Gao Zhisheng describes Huang Wei as very rational. He said, "Falun Gong practitioners like Huang Wei can wipe out all the misunderstandings people have about them with their words and actions."

Mr. Gao Zhisheng learned from Huang Wei that he had forwarded a letter to the city government on July 28 to ask for a reconsideration of his case. He didn't receive any response after a month. On August 28, Huang Wei held a hunger strike to make his voice heard. On September 9, he forwarded some "supplementary materials," on which he noted that the plaintiff was holding a hunger strike calling for a response. He sent it to the government. He did not hear anything until the afternoon of October 18, when personnel from the city government's Legal Office came to visit him. One of them was surnamed Li. They told Mr. Huang, "We haven't performed a reexamination for many years," and they refused to give Huang Wei a reply in writing. They told Huang Wei to appeal to the Hebei Province Education-through-Labor Committee, although the legal deadline for reexamination of his case had already passed.

Mr. Gao Zhisheng confirmed after his meeting with Huang Wei that Huang Wei was not at all able to appeal when he was sentenced to forced labor in 1999. He had to pay the painful cost of holding a hunger strike to push the case forward every time he appealed.

Mr. Gao learned that on April 13, 2004, after 38 days of detention, the police transferred Huang Wei to a detention room, where they held him for another 15 days because they didn't want to be accused of arbitrarily extending the detention. They didn't explain the transfer. Two officers who refused to give their names interrogated Huang Wei. When Huang Wei asked for the officers' names and work unit; they answered, "We are interrogating you, not the other way around."

Because the officers documented things completely different from what actually transpired during the interrogation, Huang Wei refused to sign the notations. Shockingly, one of the officers calmly signed Huang Wei's name and pressed his fingerprint on the signature of "Huang Wei" in his presence.

Huang Wei guessed that the interrogation deposition records were to be used as evidence against him, to validate his sentence. On June 3 Huang Wei was again sentenced to three years of forced labor and was sent to the Shijiazhuang City Forced Labor Camp the following day. From then on, to receive a citizen's procedural right to appeal according to the law, he had to hold hunger strikes in order to appeal and to make the city government reconsider his case for every step in the appeal process.

Lawsuit rejected; judge claims both the court and the law belong to the Communist Party

Before he went to Shijiazhuang City, Mr. Gao Zhisheng prepared a lawsuit to be filed with an administrative court, in which he charged the Shijiazhuang City Government with non-action for failing to respond to Huang Wei's appeal. He asked the defendant, the city government to follow the law and reverse the decision (No. 0000152) against Huang Wei by the Shijiazhuang City Re-education-through-Labor Committee, in addition to paying for the litigation expenses incurred in the lawsuit.

In the afternoon of December 27, 2004, Mr. Gao Zhisheng took the paperwork prepared for the lawsuit to the Shijiazhuang City Intermediate Court, but the court refused to accept it.

At 8:30 a.m. on December 28, Mr. Gao went to file the lawsuit with the Intermediate Court again, but it was again rejected. A judge from the administrative court of the Intermediate Court met with Gao Zhisheng and told him to file the lawsuit with the Xinhua District Court. At 9:20 a.m. the same day, Mr. Gao Zhisheng went to the Xinhua District Court in Shijiazhuang City. A judge with the surname Miao said, after reading the documents, "We have orders from above that we won't accept any Falun Gong practitioners' cases, and we do not provide any legal procedures." When Mr. Gao Zhisheng asked him for the relevant legal regulations, the judge said that these rules came from "above" and that they were only following orders. He asked Mr. Gao to talk with the judge in the original court again.

Two female officers at the case-establishing court said, after reading the deposition and other information, that cases involving Falun Gong were not to be dealt with and no legal procedure would be provided, because the central government had issued documents regarding Falun Gong.

Mr. Gao Zhisheng said, "Whether a case should be accepted or not should be judged by the law; if a government document contradicts the law, such a document should be considered illegal and therefore void."

A young officer shouted, "If you think the government document is void, then go and ask the National People's Congress to change the law!" Just then, a judge whom the officers addressed as "Head of the Court," came out and said to Mr. Gao Zhisheng, "You are probably not a Communist Party member. Don't you know lawyers are not allowed to take on this type of case? The court belongs to the Communist Party, and the Communist Party makes the laws. Since the central government doesn't allow us to accept Falun Gong lawsuits, we won't accept them. You can go to whomever you want and file the suit with whoever you can."

Mr. Gao Zhisheng writes to the National People's Congress and asked whether Falun Gong practitioners have rights as Chinese citizens

Mr. Gao Zhisheng is angry that the court straight-out refuses to follow the law. On December 31, 2004, he wrote a letter to the National People's Congress, a body also under the Chinese Communist Party's control, asking, "Aren't Falun Gong practitioners also Chinese citizens? Aren't they protected by the Constitution of China? Shouldn't they have rights as Chinese citizens?"

In his open letter, Mr. Gao Zhisheng stated with keen sorrow, "Up until now, Huang Wei's wife and child have not been allowed to visit him. This is a public and flagrant violation of law. More discouraging is the fact that the perpetrators of this violation against the country's rules are the very law enforcers who are supposed to safeguard the country's execution of the law. The executors of the law regard brutal transgression as a justified occurrence, and they no longer regard upholding the law as their responsibility. They personally set the examples to constantly destroy justice and civilization, and the rights upon which power operates; whose needs are they serving?"

China: Handicapped Woman Sentenced to Forced Labor Camp for Clarifying the Truth about Falun Gong

On November 30, 2004, police officers from the Xishan District National Security Department abducted Ms. Yang Suhong, 23, from Kunming City, and took her to Dabanqiao Provincial Women's Forced Labor Camp in Kunming City. Ms. Yang is physically handicapped. She is only 30 inches tall and weighs 50 pounds.

Ms. Yang Suhong lives in the Jishan Neighborhood administered by the Majie Office in the Xishan District. She used to suffer from an incurable illness. Beginning when she was eight years old, she developed diarrhea, a distended abdomen, abdominal pain, and weight loss. For over a decade, her parents visited every well-known hospital in Kunming City, looking for medicine. Doctors once diagnosed her with "tubercular-peritonitis" and "leukemia." She was in critical condition twice while receiving medical treatment in the hospitals. She tried various western medicines, Chinese herbs, and special folk remedies. Her parents spent all their savings, including the money they had saved to build a house, but without results. Because Ms. Yang had taken injections and pills for so long, she did not grow much. She still looked like a small child when she was eighteen.

Ms. Yang Suhong was again admitted to the Kunming Tumor Hospital after her illness recurred in 1998. The hospital diagnosed "the final stage of bone cancer." The doctor told her mother that she would only live for a few more months and asked the family to grant her as many wishes as they could.

While she was waiting to die in February 1998, Ms. Yang Suhong learned Falun Gong. Since then, her mind and body have changed dramatically, and all her symptoms of illness gradually disappeared. She was able to get rid of the box of medicines that had been with her for over ten years. Later when she went to the hospital to get a statement to apply for a "handicapped certificate," all the doctors were shocked and said, "We can't believe that you are still alive!" Her parents were very happy to see the changes in her. All her neighbors were surprised as well.

Just when Yang Suhong was beginning to enjoy her newly gained health, the persecution against Falun Gong started on July 20, 1999. Disaster soon fell on her and her family. Policemen from the 610 Office in the Xishan District and the National Security Section often came to harass them and search their home.

On July 3, 2002, the police found a copy of *Zhuan Falun* and a few of Falun Dafa founder, Mr. Li Hongzhi's new articles in her school bag. Then they conducted an illegal

interrogation, forcing her to answer questions such as when she began to practice Falun Gong, whom she had contact with, and where she obtained Falun Dafa materials. One month later, the police department personnel illegally ransacked Yang Suhong's home three times. After that police from the Xishan District National Security Section searched her belongings at her school. When they failed to discover anything in their searches, they took away her graduation paper, entitled "Good Deeds Will Be Rewarded and Evil Acts Will Be Met with Retribution," as the "evidence of her crime." Soon after that, the Association for the Handicapped, the school security guards, and her teachers all had "talks" with her, intending to intimidate her into giving up practicing Falun Gong. Yang Suhong said to them, "Aren't you forcing me to again live a life plagued by illness when you ask me to give up practicing Falun Gong? I had enough of that kind of life. Now the illness has disappeared because of my practicing Falun Gong. I don't burden my parents any more, and I don't make trouble for the government. What a good thing it is! Why doesn't the government think about what is best for its people, learn about their suffering, learn about Falun Gong, and bring benefits to its people? Why, instead, does the government act against the wishes of innocent people and push them into disaster without considering the consequences?"

Yang Suhong wrote a letter to the Association for the Handicapped, reporting that she was being persecuted for her steadfast belief in Falun Gong. The 610 Office and the Xishan District National Security Section again illegally summoned her for trial, asking her why she wrote the letter to the Association of the Handicapped and who had helped her to write the letter.

On August 24, 2004, the Kunming City Court summoned practitioners Han Zhenkun and Mr. and Mrs. Guo Juan for a public hearing citing violation of laws and regulations, but they did not allow anyone else to attend the hearing. Other practitioners and family members waited outside the courtroom to show their concern about the hearing. Policemen with the National Security Section in each district harassed and videotaped them. Because of the videotapes, those practitioners were soon abducted and summoned for trial. Ms. Yang Suhong was also among them.

On September 17, 2004, the Xishan National Security police again broke into Yang Suhong's home and abducted her after ransacking her home. She was detained in the Xishan Detention center for a month. As a result, both her mental and physical health deteriorated quickly. On November 30, 2004, while she was resting at home, the police tricked her into coming outside, pushed her into the police vehicle, and took her to Dabanqiao Provincial Women's Forced Labor Camp in Kunming City. The 2004 notice from Kunming Forced Labor Camp, numbered 4372, showed that her sign-in date was October 19, 2004, but the forced reform period written with a fountain pen was from

November 30, 2004, to November 29, 2006. The reasons they gave for sentencing her to a two-year forced labor reform were:

1. Persisting in cultivating Falun Gong.
2. Distributing Falun Gong VCD's to local families and to the home of the head of Section Three from September 10 to September 16, 2004.

China: Tai'an City Police Inject Three Female Practitioners with Nerve-Damaging Drugs

Policemen from Tai'an City Police Department abducted Falun Dafa practitioners Ms. Song Furong, Ms. Song Qi'ai, and Ms. Qu Beibei. They were tortured during interrogation and injected with unknown nerve-damaging drugs, which caused them severe physical and mental torment.

Around 7:00 p.m. on June 24, 2004, Ms. Song Furong was arrested by policemen from Tai'an City Police Department and was taken to the Yingsheng Police Station in Taishan District. There, she was tortured during interrogation for two nights and was later detained at the Tai'an City Detention Center. Shortly after that, she and two other practitioners, Ms. Song Qi'ai and Ms. Qu Beibei, were blindfolded and taken to a secret location by policemen from the Taishan District Police Department. The police then tortured and beat them, trying to force "confessions" from them. The policemen pulled Song Furong's hair and banged her head against the wall relentlessly. They used electric batons to shock Song Qi'ai and Qu Beibei on the neck and ferociously beat them. The practitioners went on a hunger strike to protest the persecution and were brutally force-fed.

On September 15, 2004, the Taishan District Court held a preliminary hearing (the so-called investigative court session) against them. Prior to the court session, all of them were injected with unknown drugs so they were unable to say anything from the beginning to the end of the court session.

On September 23, the Taishan District Court illegally sentenced Song Qi'ai to a nine-year term of imprisonment while Song Furong and Qu Beibei were sentenced to eight years of imprisonment. The practitioners appealed, but the Tai'an Intermediate Court maintained the original unlawful verdict. Before the practitioners were sent to the Jinan Women Prison, they were injected with nerve-damaging drugs. After that, their tongues were stiff and numb, and they drooled constantly. They wanted to speak, but were unable to say even one word clearly.

After all the tortures and damage caused by the unknown drugs, Song Qirong became very physically weak. She needed other people's support in order to walk. She lost most of her memory and could not even remember her village name or her home phone number. Song Qi'ai's eyes were slow to focus on anything, and she could not recognize her family members. When people asked her a question, she could only shake her head. She could not remember anything, nor could she speak. Qu Beibei was persecuted the most severely, but the details are yet to be uncovered.

Media Reports and Opinions

The Toronto Star: China Invites A Riposte

January 15, 2005

Prime Minister Paul Martin probably planned to highlight Canada/China trade and investment on his trip to Beijing next week, rather than human rights controversies.

That will be harder now. Beijing bureaucrats have just forced his hand.

The Chinese Embassy in Ottawa embarrassed Martin just as he was preparing to depart today for a 10-day Asia tour, by revoking visas for two Canadian journalists from New Tang Dynasty TV who were to travel with the PM.

NTD is a Chinese-language satellite TV service, run from New York and other centres. Beijing says it is a "propaganda tool" for the Falun Gong movement, which is banned as a [a slanderous word from Jiang regime and the Chinese Communist Party omitted] in China. NTD Canada president Joe Wang denies that, even though some NTD officials and staff practice Falun Gong, the service is often critical of Beijing, and it gives Falun Gong prominent coverage.

Whatever the truth, Martin rightly bristled at Beijing's brazen meddling with Canadian reporters on a trip not only to China but also to Thailand, Sri Lanka, India and Japan.

Martin had planned to quietly urge President Hu Jintao to give Buddhists, Christians and others more freedom. He now has added reason to do so. Only publicly.

Martin may also want to take up the cases of people and groups who Amnesty International says have been harassed or jailed unfairly. They include an AIDS activist, a lawyer who defended families evicted from their homes, a whistleblower for Christians who faced abuse, a worker's rights lobbyist and other activists.

Beijing's attempt to dictate to Martin which reporters he may have with him invites a firm prime ministerial pushback. It's a reminder that China has a long way to go in truly "opening up" to the wider world.

Canada and China now have \$1 trillion invested in each other's economy. Canada will buy \$21 billion worth of goods from China this year, and China will buy \$7 billion from Canada. This is a healthy commercial relationship worth nurturing.

Beijing's media censorship, religious intolerance and suppression of dissidence betray a contempt for due process and the law that does not enhance our relationship. Nor does China's fear of political pluralism.

These are points Martin must make on his trip. He has good reason.

UK Newsquest Regional Press: Protest over persecution in China

January 19, 2005

Hundreds of students joined a peaceful demonstration and signed a petition against human rights violations in China.

The gathering outside South-ampton University's Student Union building took many by surprise but scores were willing to add their signatures calling for the arrest of former Chinese President Jiang Zemin for persecuting followers of Falun Gong [...].

One student, Xiaomin Pang, was locked in a cage for four hours in the bitterly cold weather covered in fake blood to get her point across.

Chin Liang, 28, a student at the university has lived in Southamp-ton for two years after fleeing China for practicing Falun Gong.

She said: "Falun Gong is a form of [Qigong] and in 1999 there were 100 million people practicing it. When Jiang Zemin came to power, he ordered us to stop. I had to sign a contract saying I wouldn't do it any more. I was working as a teacher and lost my job."

Falun Gong is a traditional spiritual discipline which combines exercise and meditation.

The total number of signatures has not yet been counted but runs into hundreds and will be sent to the United Nations.

***The Vancouver Sun (British Columbia): Canada has to stand up to
Beijing's efforts to suppress information***

January 18, 2005 Tuesday

Totalitarian governments the world over always put a premium on control of information and the merciless promotion of "correct" thought amongst the citizenry.

The Chinese government, among the dwindling remnants of communist regimes in spirit if not in fact, allows little room for public debate on social and political issues. Even the end of communism as a supreme creed and the transition of China to "capitalism" has not lessened the state's fear of unfettered access to information.

Editors who fall foul of party leaders are routinely detained. The state employs about 30,000 people to monitor the Internet and close off access to unacceptable views whether it be The New York Times, the BBC or Chinese essayists like the young woman known as Steel Mouse.

In recent months, there has been a harsh state campaign against "public intellectuals." These netizens are a particularly Chinese phenomenon whose origins are in the poetry clubs of imperial times that drew together scholars and the literati to discuss and write about cultural, social and political issues.

But Beijing's desire to control news and views is a doomed endeavour, especially outside China.

In 2002, for example, some Chinese Americans started New Tang Dynasty TV aimed at countering the information pablum peddled by Beijing's state-owned satellite channel CCTV. NTDTV says it aims to be "the Chinese-language PBS" and it already has more than 50 news bureaus, about half of them in the United States.

Beijing believes NTDTV is a front for Falun Gong, the organization that promotes spiritual well-being through exercise and meditation and which the Chinese government banned in 1999 [...].

It appears that, on the basis of this alleged association with Falun Gong, the Chinese embassy in Ottawa has refused visas for an NTDTV cameraman and reporter to accompany Prime Minister Paul Martin on his visit to China this week.

It is undoubtedly true that many of the people working for NTDTV are Falun Gong practitioners, though there is no evidence of a corporate link. But very many people in the Chinese diaspora in general are followers of Falun Gong, as are millions within China where their ruthless persecution is one of Beijing's worst abuses of human rights.

But the members of the NTDTV news crew are Canadian citizens. Their spiritual beliefs are protected by law, as is their freedom of journalistic expression.

Martin has said he finds Beijing's refusal to issue the visas "a very serious issue" and his government will continue to press the case for the NTDTV crew.

He should also point out to his hosts that such sensitivity over uncontrolled information and alternative viewpoints does not create an attractive climate for trade and investment.

Spanish Newspaper "Europa Press" Reports on an Anti-torture Exhibition in Madrid

The following is a report published in the Europa Press on January the 8th 2005:

On the morning of January the 8th, Spanish Falun Gong practitioners at Puerto del Sol in the center of Madrid acted out the torture methods which have been commonly employed by the Chinese Jiang group to persecute Falun Gong practitioners in prisons and forced labor camps since it started to implement its policy of genocide against Falun Gong in 1999.

Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa, is an ancient Chinese cultivation and meditation practice that helps people to improve their health and upgrade their moral standard and is similar to Tai Chi and yoga. After it was made public in China in 1992, it quickly became very popular among the Chinese people. By 1999, there were about one hundred million people practicing Falun Gong.

Before 1999, due to the tremendous contribution Falun Gong had made to improving people's mental and physical well-being, Falun Gong was supported and awarded accolades by the Chinese Government. In July 1999, insisting on his own prejudiced view regardless of others' opinions, the former Chinese president Jiang Zemin illegally banned Falun Gong. This act itself was against the Chinese constitution which protects its citizens' freedom of belief. Since then, an unprecedented bloody and brutal crackdown on Falun Gong practitioners has been on-going.

The Spanish Falun Gong Association pointed out, "After five years of continuous persecution, over one million people have been illegally detained or jailed in prisons and forced labor camps. Elderly women and children are among those who have been persecuted. During the incarceration, they have suffered cruel persecution and many of them were even tortured to death."

A Falun Gong spokesperson told reporters, "This is one of the most serious genocides in history. It is believed that over ten thousand people have been killed in this inhumane persecution."

The most lamentable thing is that the western world has little knowledge of this persecution. The reason is that the Chinese Government has stringently censored and blocked the news reported by its state-controlled mass media.

Currently, human rights lawyers in twenty-five countries, including Spain, have initiated a lawsuit against this persecution through legal means. It is confirmed that international human rights organizations, such as the European Parliament, the U.N. Human Rights Commission and Amnesty International, have endeavored to bring an end to this persecution.

The anti-torture exhibition at Puerto del Sol in Madrid commenced at 11:30 a.m. Falun Gong practitioners practice the exercises together in Diro Park every Sunday and teach the exercises free of charge.

***Portsmouth Herald News, NH: Clarifying the truth - Maine couple takes
on the war against Falun Gong***

What would happen if yoga suddenly became illegal? If the government decided that since so many people were doing Pilates, it was going to outlaw the exercise and persecute everyone who continued to practice it?

This is what allegedly happened in China with Falun Gong, an ancient Chinese form of meditation used to improve individual health and spiritual well-being.

Marcus Gale, 53, is a singer and performing artist who has been practicing Falun Gong, also called Falun Dafa, since 1998. According to Gale, the Communist party in China outlawed the meditative practice in 1999 because it saw the increasing number of followers as a threat to the government.

"There's all this talk about terrorism," Gale said, "and here are 100 million people being terrorized and no one knows about it. There's a secret genocide campaign going on. People should care when basic human freedom is being challenged on such a large scale."

Peter Somssich, secretary of the N.H. Seacoast 550 chapter of Amnesty International, said the Communist government in China has been persecuting Falun Gong followers in various ways and that as far as he knows, there is isn't anything illegal about practicing the exercise.

"(Falun Gong followers and activists) do have a very strong case where they are being persecuted for no obvious reason and it's certainly a violation of human rights," said Somssich.

The Amnesty International Web site states that "tens of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners have been arbitrarily detained by police, some of them repeatedly for short periods, and put under pressure to renounce their beliefs. Many of them are reported to have been tortured or ill-treated in detention. Some practitioners have been detained in psychiatric hospitals.

Those who have spoken out publicly about the persecution of practitioners since the ban have suffered harsh reprisals."

Gale said that he and his wife, Mary Byrom, of North Berwick, Maine, have found Falun Gong to be a successful form of stress relief and a way to improve the mind, body and

spirit. They said they were shocked when they learned that the form of meditation was illegal in China and that followers were allegedly being arrested, tortured and even beaten to death.

Gale and Byrom, a visual artist, wanted to get involved and have used their talents to increase local awareness about the Chinese struggle over the past four years. Gale said that they decided to show people "live and in-person what's really going on."

In addition to handing out brochures on a daily basis, Gale has written numerous children's songs explaining what is happening in China. Such as "The Trial," about the grand trial of one of the communist leaders persecuting Falun Gong followers, and "Why," about all the children in China who have been orphaned after their parents were taken away for practicing the meditative art.

Byrom designed a live anti-torture exhibit by constructing cages and various tools used for torture and then having actors pose and depict the violent acts that are taking place in China. The "living theater exhibit" took place on the streets of Boston and New York during the Democratic and Republican National Conventions last year. Byrom said that more than 3,000 volunteers from all over the world arrived to participate in the weeklong, live exhibit.

"There were 300 people next to the exhibit doing the exercises," Byrom said.

"I had it set up so you could see, this is the practice, and then this is what happens to them when they do this in China, and then there were the torture exhibits."

"Anyone who practices Falun Gong feels like it has improved their physical health and emotional health," Gale said. "(Those involved) feel like they can make a difference and help. We aren't protesting, we're just clarifying the truth."

"I feel like (what I've done) is just a beginning step," Byrom said. "I won't feel relaxed, or content, or happy until they stop the persecution."

According to the Web site, "Amnesty International is calling on the Chinese government to stop the mass arbitrary detentions, unfair trials and other human-rights violations resulting from the crackdown on the Falun Gong and other groups branded by the government as 'heretical organizations.' All the information available indicates that the crackdown is politically motivated, with legislation being used retroactively to convict people on politically driven charges, and new regulations introduced to further restrict fundamental freedoms."

"This is so huge," Byrom said. "I mean, I think one out of every five families is affected by this. I mean, people must know about it."

Gale contends that the persecution of Falun Gong has affected 100 million people in China because the government wants to wipe out the practice by wiping-out the people involved. He just wants to make a difference.

"It's a practice that's good for people's well-being," Gale said, "and if you aren't hearing about (the persecution of Falun Gong) in the news, then you need to hear about it somewhere."

Both Gale and Byrom said they plan to continue using their artistic talents to expose the struggle over Falun Gong in China. One of the next steps, Byrom said, will be a series of forums at various colleges and universities around the Seacoast and New England.

Falun Gong Practitioners' Noble Actions in China

My Blind Brother Clarifies the Truth

By a Falun Gong Practitioner in Shandong Province, China

My third brother lost eyesight in both eyes because of a fire before he began practicing Falun Gong. Even so, as a practitioner, he still puts forth everything he can to clarify the truth and validate Falun Gong. The following is a brief collection of some of the truth clarification stories involving him.

When I see people treating Falun Gong with a bad or indifferent attitude, I can't stand to be polite to them and feel very angry in my heart. My brother advises me, "Let's give them a chance and patiently clarify the truth to them. Use benevolence. We had the fortune to learn Falun Gong first. They are the ones that should be given care." When I saw how my brother was considerate of others although he suffered from blindness, I realized the gap in our understandings. Sometimes I went out to hang banners and he wanted to come along with me. I told him that since he had difficulty moving around, he shouldn't trouble himself. So he then offered to be my "ladder" so that I can more easily hang the banners on power lines by stepping on his shoulders.

This summer, my eight-year-old child went back to our hometown where my brother lives. My brother invited him to distribute truth clarification CDs with him. The child happily accepted. The pair went out in daylight, the child leading the way and describing the scenery as they wandered the streets until they handed out all of their truth-clarification materials. They used their own way to get the job done.

Sometimes he goes out at night to distribute material with our mother who is over 60 years old. They help each other as they traverse the difficult mountain roads. My brother isn't careful occasionally, and he would step into a ditch full of water. But he never complains about his handicap and often feels disappointed for not accomplishing as much as he likes. Since it's hard for him to travel, he puts his heart into what he does. He helps by giving suggestions, making calls, and doing other aspects of coordination.

During 2001 and 2002 when the situation was most difficult, he made spring festival couplets [*It is a Chinese tradition to post couplets on front gates of houses during holidays*] that read, "Falun Gong is good" and "Truthfulness, Benevolence, and Forbearance are good." He posted the couplets to his front gate during the Spring Festival. He did this to prove to people that Falun Gong is rooted deep in people's heart and is indestructible. The people seeing this observed, "Under such kind of suppression and persecution he still practices. Falun Gong must be truly great."

Clarifying the Truth to Prisoners in Jilin City Prison

By a Falun Gong practitioner from Jilin Province, China

The majority of prisoners in Jilin City Prison are long-term criminals. Because these people do not have the opportunity to contact the outside world, they know nothing about Falun Gong except for the lies spread by Jiang's faction. Thus, since 2002, when Falun Gong practitioners were sent to the prison to be persecuted one after another, the prisoners believed China Central Television's (CCTV) anti-Falun Gong propaganda. At the beginning, their view of Falun Gong practitioners was not rational. They discriminated, limited practitioners' freedom of movement, did not permit practitioners to contact other people, and verbally abused and mocked practitioners as outcasts. Some of them closely followed Jiang Zemin's group and acted as tools to persecute Falun Gong practitioners. It was initially very difficult to break through this situation. But Falun Gong practitioners did not give up. We first paid attention to our image and actions: we paid attention to being consistent, we matched our words with deeds, were amiable and spoke to people in a friendly manner, and we did not compete for any personal gain. This manifestation of the goodness of Falun Gong moved the other prisoners and gradually, it generated favorable impressions in their minds. Then we told them that the practice of Falun Gong requests us to act this way, gently guiding them to question their earlier misunderstanding of Falun Gong, and to develop a favorable impression of Falun Gong. The prisoners then realized that Falun Gong practitioners are good people.

Then we talked about our lives and experiences, and let the prisoners know that Falun Gong practitioners have wisdom and are not ignorant [*as has been portrayed by CCTV*]. For example, we told them that among Falun Gong practitioners there are many people who are very well educated. Many of them hold bachelors degrees; some even hold masters degrees and doctorate degrees; some of them are scientists, professors, writers, and officials at all levels. There are more than 120 military generals in our country practicing Falun Gong. There are 100 million people in our country practicing Falun Gong. There are practitioners in more than 60 countries worldwide practicing Falun Gong. Therefore, Falun Gong does not merely belong to China, but to the world. It is wrong that China bans Falun Gong. We told the prisoners it is Jiang Zemin who is really the one who is anti-humanity and anti-society.

We then told the prisoners the benefits of practicing Falun Gong: Falun Gong is one of the cultivation ways in the Buddha School; it cultivates the mind and body, rectifies the human heart and helps people value self-cultivation and the nurturing of virtues. Falun Gong practitioners have no interest in fame, fortune, or political power. This explanation eventually eliminated the misleading propaganda from Jiang Zemin's wicked group. We

further told the prisoners the consequences of supporting or opposing Falun Gong, and that whoever helps persecute Falun Gong will meet his or her retribution.

In the process of breaking through the persecution environment and letting the prisoners know the truth, every step we took was related to Falun Gong. Based on the prisoners' questions, we clarified the truth and exposed the Jiang regime's true colors: the deceit, the cover-ups, and how they mislead people. One example of this deceit is the Party's account of the April 25 incident (1), which was reported as "Falun Gong practitioners besiege Zhongnanhai." The prisoners came to understand that this was Jiang regime's plot, and its purpose was to build a foundation from which to ban Falun Gong. Concerning the "self-immolation in Tiananmen Square," we explained how this was a staged lie to defame Falun Gong. More terrible was the story from Masanjia Forced Labor Camp in Shenyang City, in which 18 female Falun Gong practitioners were stripped naked and thrown into cells with male prisoners. We explained how Falun Gong practitioners' family members were also brutally persecuted. In the face of such atrocities, how could Falun Gong practitioners remain indifferent! We must tell all people the truth about how we are being treated unjustly. The broadcasts by the television about Falun Gong are not true; they are pure fabrication, defamation, and deception. In order to ask for justice we appealed to the government but we were instead arrested and charged with going to Beijing to cause trouble.

We told them how a large number of police were utilized to abduct Falun Gong practitioners and extort money from them. Falun Gong practitioners' families have been broken up, yet this fact was twisted around and used to slander practitioners, saying that the family breakups were a result of practicing Falun Gong. Because we practitioners have no access to the mainstream media to tell our side of the story, we can only use our own truth-clarification materials to let people know the real story. However, for this we are arrested and sent to jail, and not allowed to hire an attorney.

When the prisoners came to understand that Falun Gong practitioners are good people and are being unjustly persecuted, they in turn told their relatives and friends. As a result, our environment in prison changed, we were given more space in which to move around, and the limitations imposed on us were reduced. In defiance of the prison authorities, many awakened prisoners secretly carried and passed along Teacher's articles to us. Some also disclosed information of how the authorities were planning to persecute Falun Gong practitioners in the prison. Now, some prisoners even dare to stand up and speak up for Falun Gong practitioners. We seize every opportunity to spread Falun Gong, to awaken all people and to guide them to study Teacher's articles. Especially after Jiang Zemin stepped down, more and more people asked to study Falun Gong. Their bodies and minds underwent big changes as a result of their study. Formerly bad tempers have become mild, and the physical condition of many prisoners

has improved; some of them were able to discard canes and experienced healing. There are also many people in prison who know that Falun Gong is good, but who dare not study Falun Gong out of fear of punishment by the prison authorities; but they indicated that they will study after being released

The Falun Gong Practice Site at My Home Has Weathered the Storm over the Past Five Years

By a Falun Gong practitioner in China

The blessings of obtaining Falun Gong

I grew up in a very poor family. After I got married, my husband often verbally abused me, and I cried in private. Slowly, my health declined as I bottled up my emotions. Eventually, I had a nervous breakdown. After I recovered, my husband's temperament improved but I became selfish and aggressive. My life became dull and depressing.

In September 1998, I started practicing Falun Gong and was able to free myself from painful conflicts. I went to the practice site to do the exercises and study the Fa on a daily basis, and I actively disseminated Falun Gong. I listened to Master's lecture audiotapes (instead of reading) at home because I was illiterate. I conducted myself according to Falun Dafa at all times. Soon, all of my illnesses disappeared.

I wanted to read Falun Gong books but I was uneducated. Therefore, I started with *Hong Yin*, and I learned every single character in the book. I recited poems from *Hong Yin* when walking and working, and I was able to sail through all kinds of situations with great ease.

The practice site at my home has been maintained throughout the persecution

After the persecution started in July 1999, fellow practitioners who lived close to me came to the practice site at my home on a daily basis. We did the exercises, studied the Fa and exchanged experiences every day. We pointed out each other's shortcomings and we discussed how to deal with the perpetrators of the persecution. We didn't have much fear. When the police came to interfere with us, we always told them that we would persist in practicing Falun Gong, and with the power of our righteous thoughts, the police left without achieving anything. We always persisted in doing the exercises and studying Falun Dafa right up to the present.

Clarifying the truth at the police department

In June 2000, a fellow practitioner from my practice site went to appeal for Falun Gong. She was abducted and held at a custody center. The head of a police department asked her husband about other practitioners. He revealed the names of two practitioners, including me. The head of the police department illegally arrested us. I thought, "This is

a great opportunity. I should tell them how wonderful Falun Gong is and tell them to stop persecuting Falun Gong." A person handling my case asked me, "Will you still practice Falun Gong?" I said without a moment's hesitation, "Yes!" Then I told him about the changes that took place in me after I started practicing Falun Gong.

Maybe the caseworker was moved by my sincerity, because he asked me, "Is this ok?" after writing each sentence. When the head of the police department and the secretary for the village Party Committee saw the report, they were angry and said in a menacing voice, "This is not going to work! You mean she would still practice? Rewrite it!" The caseworker ignored them and walked out. The Party secretary yelled at me, "We'll throw you in prison if you say you'll still practice." I answered, "I'll practice, even you lock me up. At least I've learned so many profound principles from Falun Gong!" Again I told him about the positive changes I experienced after practicing Falun Gong. Thanks to Master and Falun Gong's protection, the police chief and the Party secretary obviously changed their minds, because they released both of us practitioners later that day.

Upholding the reputation of Falun Dafa with my actions when confronted with opposition from family

The village Party secretary cursed at me during all major and minor village meetings. Finally, my family and friends could not take it anymore and said to me, "Stop practicing! Why can't you say for one minute that you will stop practicing?" My husband also said, "Just practice at home, and when people ask you, just say you don't practice anymore."

When faced with opposition from my family I told them, "I can't lie! You all know I was very ill and Master purified my body for me. That is why I am healthy now! I can't speak against my conscience."

Although I continued validating Falun Gong with words, more frequently I validated Falun Gong with my actions. I conducted myself as a practitioner and I truly felt Teacher's words echoing in my ears. My family and friends were impressed with me and said, "You are such a good person." I told them it's not just me but Falun Gong that is great, and that Teacher instructs us to be considerate of others at all times. Thus, they no longer opposed my practicing and they too said that Falun Gong is great! I felt truly happy for them.

The head of police department said, "take good care of your things; we'll only go through the formalities."

For a while, the police often ransacked my home. Once, a police officer came to my home and asked what we did with the VCR. My daughter said that it was broken, and the

police left. Right after they left, my husband, who was afraid, wrapped the VCR and Master's lecture videotapes in dirty clothes and put them in the toilet room. The evil took advantage of his lack of respect for Falun Gong. The police turned around and came back. They saw that the VCR was gone and they demanded that my husband turn it in or they would arrest him. My husband gave the VCR to them.

Several days later, the head of the police department asked me to come pick up the VCR. I thought, "Picking up the VCR is minor; what's important is to clarify the truth." I explained the facts about Falun Gong to the police chief and he said, "I was trying to reform you; why are you reforming me?" I said, "You asked me to come. Since I'm here I want to tell you about my situation after I started practicing Falun Gong."

I spoke for a long time, and he listened attentively. After I finished he said, "Actually, you and your daughter did well the other day, but your husband didn't. Your Teacher is a Buddha! How could he [your husband] hide such precious things in the restroom? Had we not already left? But we saw your husband darting about and then went back; we saw that the VCR was not there anymore."

I said, "I know my husband did wrong. You can come just for the formality of it; but if you persecute us you will receive karmic retribution." He said, "Are you thirsty after talking for so long?" He handed me a cup of tea with both hands and said, "From now on, take good care of your things; we'll only go through the formalities and will not ransack your home. But we'll have to arrest you if we see Falun Gong things out in the open. You can leave now."

I told my husband what happened at the police department. He realized his mistake, and he cherished Falun Gong materials from then on.

From two pages an hour, to one chapter in three hours

Because I recognized few words in *Zhuan Falun*, I asked people to teach me. I had a poor memory and often forgot the words I had just learned. The words appeared foreign to me, even after a long time. However, I didn't give up, because I knew nothing could stop me as long as I believed in Teacher and Falun Dafa. From reading two pages of *Zhuan Falun* in one hour to begin with, now I can read one chapter in three hours.

We have done a more thorough job with truth clarification. I often distribute flyers and clarify the truth in the streets, sometimes by myself and sometimes with a dozen fellow practitioners. The outcome is very good.

***The Whole Class Applauds a Student Who Held His Ground and Refused
to Slander Falun Gong***

By a Falun Gong practitioner from China

The son of a Falun Gong practitioner is a college student who learned the truth of Falun Gong from his parents.

Under orders from the 610 Office, his college pressures students to write articles that slander Falun Gong. This young man firmly expressed to his teacher that he would not write these kinds of articles. When the teacher asked him why he would not write them, he said, "Falun Gong poses no harm to me, why I should slander it?" The teacher replied, "But this is a requirement from the top, and I have no right to give you permission not to do it." The teacher then reported this incident to the college administration office. The college administration office wanted to see him the next day. Actually, they wanted to pressure him.

After returning home, the student told his mother, a Falun Gong practitioner, about what happened. His mother told him, "You did the right thing. Tomorrow, when they come looking for you, don't give in to their pressure. I will go see them."

The next day, people from the administration office called him out of class. His classmates were all worried for him. Meanwhile, his mother hurried to the school, sending righteous thoughts along the way. She handled the case very well, without exposing her identity as a Falun Gong practitioner. She explained to the teacher why her child did not want to slander Falun Gong. She said, "I told him not to write this. Every political movement in the past has been proven wrong, but people do not learn the lessons from them afterwards. Instead, they make the same mistakes again once a new political movement is launched. So I told my child not to participate in any political slandering, because you don't understand the truth. If you blindly follow along, you will easily do the wrong thing. Wouldn't you be doing a bad thing? Besides, I know some Falun Gong practitioners in our village. Everyone knows that they are kindhearted people. They do not fight back when hit, and do not curse back when cursed. They all have high moral standards. How can I allow my child to slander these good people? Everyone knows that good deeds are rewarded with good, and evil deeds meet with due retribution. How can I tell my child to do these kinds of things?" The teacher in charge had nothing to say, and could only shirk responsibility. He said, "I cannot make the decision, you need to talk to the administration office."

This Falun Gong practitioner went to the administration office, sending righteous thoughts along the way to eliminate the evil in other dimensions. She explained the reasons and principles to the people of the administration office. They saw that what she said was very reasonable, and could not dispute what she said. But they irresponsibly told her, "It is all arranged by the 610 Office, anyway. If it is wrong, we will all be wrong together. Who cares?" The Falun Gong practitioner replied, "Since you don't know whether it's right or wrong, even more so, should you not slander it blindly. So I cannot allow my son to blindly do this foolish thing. Don't you agree?" The people from the college administration office saw that the Falun Gong practitioner's attitude was very firm. Thus the administrator said, "If he does not want to write it, then he doesn't have to write it. Let him go back to class."

When the Falun Gong practitioner's son returned to the classroom with a smile, he could not imagine that all his classmates would be applauding him. The whole class gave him a big round of applause, just like welcoming a hero from a battlefield.

The People Awaken to the Truth

An Elderly Beggar Encounters Falun Dafa

This is a true story from Pingdu City, Shandong Province.

There is an elderly man named Wan En, with no children or family, who lives in Cuijia Village, Wanjia Township, Pingdu City. He is able to stay in a room owned by the village because he has headaches and pains in his legs, but he lives as a beggar.

One day Wan En met a lady, a Falun Dafa practitioner who goes by the name of True Lotus. True Lotus told him about Falun Dafa. Wan believed. True Lotus told him to recite, "Falun Dafa is good, Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance is good." Wan nodded that he would do it.

Many days passed. One day Wan ran into True Lotus and cried, "Look! Look!" As he talked, he flexed his legs and jumped high into the air. He shouted: "Falun Dafa is good! Bring Jiang Zemin to justice all around the world!" True Lotus was overjoyed. This elderly man, who had previously been awaiting death, had now become like a young boy again. It was a miracle!

The old man gladly talked about what happened to him and asked for a copy of *Zhuan Falun* to read. True Lotus felt embarrassed, because in China the brutal persecution of Falun Gong is still going on, so it's really hard to get a copy of *Zhuan Falun*. When True Lotus goes out, she frequently meets with the elderly man and he keeps asking for a copy of *Zhuan Falun*.

Wan En finally got a copy of *Zhuan Falun*. He knelt down on both of his knees, holding *Zhuan Falun* in his hands and said loudly while looking up at the sky: "Thank you Teacher! Thank you Falun Dafa practitioners!"

A Chinese Police Officer's Confessions: Falun Gong Practitioners under My Surveillance Are Completely Different from What the State-run Media Depicted

By a police officer in China

I was assigned to monitor Falun Gong practitioners for the past several years, and my contact with them over this period of time progressively disturbed my conscience. I have found that the Falun Gong practitioners under my surveillance are completely different from how they have been depicted by the media.

I have seen these practitioners hold firm to their belief under tremendous pressure. While facing punishment, huge fines, detention, forced labor, and prison terms, they have never denounced the government or taken any excessive action against anyone. They have simply insisted that, "Falun Dafa is good," "Truthfulness-Benevolence-Forbearance is good," and "We are being persecuted by evil forces." I have witnessed that they voluntarily give up their seats to others on the bus, turn in lost items they have found, warmly offer help to other people, silently clean up public hallways, voluntarily return change when overpaid, dig out dirt from sewage systems with their bare hands, and give up the minimal stipend paid by the government, saying that "we can make a living and the country should spend this money on more needy people." They willingly accept any assignment except when it is beyond their abilities. They also obey the law, never gamble, never pick a fight, and never curse anyone. Their mental and physical health also command my admiration.

Sometimes I ask myself what I would do in their situation. I might fight the government, at worst exchanging one life for my own. Their lack of hatred or discouragement inspires me as the days go by. The facts have made things clear to me. Let's think about the fact that before 1999, there were many Falun Gong practitioners in my area. Why had there never been any of the terrible incidents as described on the TV, and why had they never negatively impacted society? Even now, the leaflets they hand out are not anti-society, not anti-government, and not anti-China. The leaflets simply expose those with ulterior motives that have taken advantage of their power to persecute the practitioners, and present the fact that Falun Dafa has spread far and wide around the globe.

Whenever I earn a bonus or overtime for what I have been doing, I cannot face my conscience. We often complain that the moral standards are declining, that there's no trust whatsoever among people, but we do not ask ourselves whether our own actions have suppressed what's good and fostered what's evil. Taking myself as an example, by

participating in the persecution of a group of Falun Gong practitioners with high moral standards, I am really abetting evil acts. Thinking this over, we are indeed misled and deceived by our orders and the media. Irrational, unfounded antagonism against Falun Gong has been stirred up, and we have mortgaged our won conscience, driven by those with ulterior motives who appeal to our self interest and desire for power. As a matter of fact, it is Jiang Zemin and his followers who, by persecuting Falun Gong, are bringing instability to our nation and our people.

I think it is time that our country should rid itself of those who have wrongfully persecuted Falun Gong and deceived ordinary citizens to act against their conscience.

To conclude, let me tell you, based on my eyewitness observations, that "Falun Dafa Is good! The wrongful persecution of Falun Gong is unprecedented!" I hope this expression of my deepest regrets will alleviate my burdened conscience.

Falun Gong Practitioners' Personal Experiences

After Cultivating for About Forty Days, My Leukemia Was Cured

In December 1994, I was diagnosed with leukemia. That shocking news was a bombshell for my family and me. A cloud of shock and despair enshrouded us.

Some hospitals did not accept me due to the serious nature of my illness. Finally, one hospital accepted me and I stayed there only to prolong my life by a matter of days. I knew that death was at hand. When I lay down in the hospital bed, I experienced pain all over my body. My limbs felt weak and I was constantly tormented by the illness. The suffering felt unbearable. I recalled that my life was once quite good, and I was bitter at fate. Overwhelmed by pain and hopelessness, the only thing I could do was groan in despair.

My elder sister visited me at the beginning of 1995. She introduced Falun Gong to me. Its power and wonder deeply attracted me. The profound content of the principles was like spring rain upon my withered heart. In previous days, I lay on the hospital bed in great pain, and did not even have the energy to turn over. Just sitting up was out of the question. However, while I listened to the introduction of Falun Gong, I felt more and more energetic. I sat for more than one hour and did not feel any fatigue, which was amazing for me at the time.

When I did the meditation on the first day, I felt very relaxed and comfortable, and the pain suddenly disappeared like the fog vanishing in the morning sun.

When I did the exercises on the fourth day, I felt the Falun spinning rapidly all over my body. I even could hear a "swoosh" sound while the Falun turned. I felt my body becoming re-energized and healthier day by day.

When I did the exercises on the fifth day, my platelet count reached a normal level, and all the other indicators were better.

Before I began the exercises, I could hardly take a step on my own. After I did the exercises for only ten days, I could walk more than twenty round trips up and down the corridor, which was more than thirty meters in length. I could also walk from the second floor to the fourth floor and back down several times in a row. It felt as if I was being pushed along by someone and did not feel tired at all while walking.

After I cultivated for only more than forty days, I had totally recovered. I felt lucky and proud to bid farewell to the hospital and the medication. The extraordinary phenomenon of my recovery was received happily by fellow practitioners. The doctors

and nurses were also amazed. I told them that Teacher Li's Falun Gong gave me a second life.

I was rescued from the verge of death. I treasure the chance to cultivate in Falun Gong, a chance that is most precious. Those fictitious rumors against Falun Gong cannot deceive me. I will steadfastly cultivate in Falun Gong and tell people with my own experience that Falun Gong is great.

My Brother-in-law's Hepatitis B and Diabetes Disappeared after Practicing Falun Gong

My brother-in-law, 47, is a worker in a fertilizer manufacturing plant. He suddenly fell ill this year, and with no alternative for a cure, he studied Falun Gong and recovered.

In June 2004, my brother-in-law didn't feel well and went to a hospital to have a check up. The results showed that he had diabetes and hepatitis B. He was stunned by the findings. He was hospitalized in the contagious disease department of the Second People's Hospital. I visited him on the third day of his hospitalization and was shocked by what I saw. He had a very yellow complexion. He said, "I don't want to eat anything, and I don't want to move. I just want to lie down on the bed. Don't come here in the future since it's a contagious disease department. I have the results already. Hepatitis B is the most serious kind. The doctor has asked your sister to have a check up and have an immunization shot to prevent cross infection."

He was hospitalized for more than 20 days and spent more than 7,000 yuan on medical care. His condition did not stabilize, even though most of the indexes improved. He was worried about his health and felt very depressed. His monthly income is about 700 yuan. He and my sister live in the countryside and their child is in college. His expenditure in the hospital amounted to a year's college expense for their child. I had tried to promote Falun Gong to him in the past. I told him of the spread of Falun Gong in the world at this time. He said, "I know Falun Dafa is great, but I didn't have the patience to learn. Now I have no options, let me try."

Before my brother-in-law was discharged from the hospital, he learned all five of the exercises and began to read the book *Zhuan Falun*. He kept practicing Falun Gong after returning home. Three months later, he went back to the hospital to have a check up. Surprisingly, everything was normal, and all the symptoms were gone. The doctor even asked him, "Did you use any folk remedies?"

My brother-in-law gets up at 3:00 a.m. to practice the exercises. He has been much nicer and considerate. He said happily, "I had never imagined that Falun Dafa was so powerful."